

Serial No. 10/670,804
Atty. Doc. No. 2001P05028WOUS

Amendments To The Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicant reserves the right to pursue any canceled claims at a later date.

1. (currently amended) A turbine system, comprising:
at least two turbine stages, each of the turbine stages having a turbine rotor extending along a main axis, the turbine rotors rigidly connected to each other and one of the turbine stages having an inner casing enclosing the turbine rotor, the inner casing supported in a bearing area so that it can be axially displaced;
an outer casing enclosing the inner casing, the outer casing separate from the inner casing;
a thrust element for transmitting an axial force for an axial displacement connected to the inner casing; and
a bearing device located in the bearing area adapted to provide reduced static friction such that ~~the~~ an axial offset that spontaneously occurs when the static friction is overcome when displacing the inner casing is less than 2 mm.
2. (previously amended) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the bearing device is free of static friction.
3. (previously amended) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the bearing device has a hydrostatic bearing that is supplied with a pressurized operating means, whereby a sliding film is formed.
4. (currently amended) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 3, wherein the sliding film is provided in a gap, with the height of the gap being adjustable relative to the pressure (~~pB~~) of the operating means.
5. (previously amended) A turbine system in accordance with claim 1, wherein the bearing device is a rolling bearing with an number of rolling bodies arranged along the axial direction of displacement relative to each other.

Serial No. 10/670,804
Atty. Doc. No. 2001P05028WOUS

6. (previously amended) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 5, wherein a contact surface of the rolling body taking a normal force F_N during a displacement operation has a cylindrical jacket-shaped geometry with a radius of curvature R .
7. (previously amended) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 5, wherein a rolling body has a spherical or cylindrical geometry.
8. (previously amended) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the bearing area has a supporting arm of the inner casing and a bearing support area, the supporting arm being supported on the bearing support area by the bearing device.
9. (previously amended) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the bearing device has a lever by which the supporting arm has a swiveling connection to the bearing support area.
10. (previously amended) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the inner casing is connected to a damping device to dampen vibrations.
11. (previously amended) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 1, wherein one medium-pressure steam turbine stage and at least two low-pressure steam turbine stages each having an inner casing are provided, with the turbine stages being arranged along the main axis, with the inner casing being connected to the thrust element and supported in a bearing area with a bearing device.
12. (previously amended) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 11, wherein the medium-pressure steam turbine stage has an outer casing that is connected via a thrust element to the inner housing of the low-pressure steam turbine stage arranged downstream in an axial direction, and a fixed bearing connected to the outer casing that forms the axial fixed point for a thermal axial expansion.
13. (currently amended) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 11, wherein one of the low-pressure steam turbine stages has an exhaust steam casing with a diffusion area of 10.0 m^2 to 25 m^2 , in particular 12.5 m^2 to 16 m^2 .

OAR_2001P05028WOUS.rtf

3

Serial No. 10/670,804
Atty. Doc. No. 2001P05028WOUS

14. (previously added) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the turbine system is a steam turbine system.
15. (previously added) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 2, wherein the bearing device has a hydrostatic bearing that is supplied with a pressurized operating means, whereby a sliding film is formed.
16. (previously added) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 2, wherein the bearing device is a rolling bearing with an number of rolling bodies arranged along the axial direction of displacement relative to each other.
17. (previously added) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 3, wherein the bearing device is a rolling bearing with an number of rolling bodies arranged along the axial direction of displacement relative to each other.
18. (previously added) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 2, wherein the bearing area has a supporting arm of the inner casing and a bearing support area, with the supporting arm being supported on the bearing support area by means of the bearing device.
19. (previously added) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 2, wherein one medium-pressure steam turbine stage and at least two low-pressure steam turbine stages each having an inner casing are provided, with the turbine stages being arranged along the main axis, with the inner casing being connected to the thrust element and supported in a bearing area with a bearing device.
20. (previously added) A turbine system in accordance with Claim 3, wherein the pressurized operating means is oil under pressure.

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